

Senate File 2116 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2116
BY JOCHUM

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring that the Iowa core curriculum for kindergarten
2 through grade eight include foreign language and American
3 sign language.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a, Code
2 Supplement 2009, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Adopt rules that establish a core curriculum and
4 requiring, beginning with the students in the 2010-2011 school
5 year graduating class, high school graduation requirements
6 for all students in school districts and accredited nonpublic
7 schools that include at a minimum satisfactory completion
8 of four years of English and language arts, three years
9 of mathematics, three years of science, and three years of
10 social studies. The core curriculum adopted shall address the
11 core content standards in subsection 28 and the skills and
12 knowledge students need to be successful in the twenty-first
13 century. The core curriculum shall include social studies and
14 twenty-first century learning skills which include but are
15 not limited to civic literacy, health literacy, technology
16 literacy, financial literacy, and employability skills; and
17 shall address the curricular needs of students in kindergarten
18 through grade twelve in those areas. In addition, the core
19 curriculum for kindergarten through grade eight shall include
20 foreign language and American sign language. The department
21 shall further define the twenty-first century learning skills
22 components by rule.

23 Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
24 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
25 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
26 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
27 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
28 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
29 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
30 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
31 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
32 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
33 districts.

34 EXPLANATION

35 This bill requires the state board of education to adopt

1 rules that include in the Iowa core curriculum for kindergarten
2 through grade eight, foreign language and American sign
3 language.

4 Current Code requires school districts and accredited
5 nonpublic schools to fully implement the core curriculum for
6 kindergarten through grade eight by the 2014-2015 school year.

7 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
8 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
9 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
10 district from state school foundation aid received by the
11 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
12 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
13 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
14 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
15 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
16 mandates included in the bill.